Raids at medical store in AIIMS

†514. SHRI MOTILAL VORA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the dates on which the medical store of the All India Institute of Medical Sciences was raided during the last three years indicating the irregularities detected, therein;

(b) the arrangements made to do away with those irregularities; and

(c) the persons found guilty and action taken against them?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (c) A team of Anti-Corruption Branch of NCT Delhi and CBI team conducted surprise checks in the stores of AIIMS main hospital on 17-10-2003 and 30-10-2003 respectively. The Institute has not received any report from CBI and ACB till date.The inst'uctions of Anti-Corruption Branch to develop foolproof system and metnodology to ensure proper receipt and issue of drugs to various departments have been complied and various measures initiated to check recurrence of such practices in future.

Resolution of Central Council of Health and Family Welfare

515. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have accepted the unanimous resolution adopted by the Central Council of Health and Family Welfare to (i) include drinking water as a food item under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act and (ii) to impose death sentence for manufacture and sale of spurious drugs that cause death or grievous injuries;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to implement these decisions and the time-frame therefor; and

(c) whether the existing enforcement agencies would need augmentation or strengthening to achieve these objectives?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) to (c) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare has decided to accept the recommendations of the Central

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi

Council for Health and Family Welfare to include drinking water within the definition of food under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. Appropriate steps have been initiated to amend the relevant provisions of the Prevention of Food Adulteration, Act, 1954.

The 8th Conference of CCH&FW in its meeting held on 28-29th August, 2003 had deliberated on the problem of spurious drugs including stricter penalties for offencs for manufacture, sale etc. of spurious drugs. There was general consensus on the issue of imposing death sentence for manufacture and sale of spurious drugs that cause grievous hurt.

Government has initiated steps to bring forth a legislation for amending the penal provisions under the Drugs and Cosmetics Act, 1940 on the lines suggested by the Mashelkar Committee in its interim report including introduction of Capital punishment for manufacture and sale of spurious drugs that cause grievous injuries.

The issue of augmentation or strengthening the existing enforcement agencies as per the recommendation made in the final report of the Mashelkar Committee is under examination of the Government.

Free treatment of HIV positive children

516. DR. AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made a special provision for free treatment of HIV positive children below 14 years of age, if so, the details thereof;

(b) the number of such HIV afflicted children, State-wise; and

(c) the steps taken so far in pursuance thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI A. RAJA): (a) and (b) The Government has proposed to provide treatment of eligible HIV positive children below 15 years of age with effect from 1st April 2004 in government hospitals of six high prevalence states, namely Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Maharashtra, Manipur, Nagaland & Karnataka in a phased manner.The statement showing state wise numbers of reported HIV afflicted children under 15 years of age in the year 2002 is given *(See* below)